GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 678

ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

SPECIAL PACKAGE FOR VIDARBHA AND MARATHWADA

678. DR. FAUZIA KHAN

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

(a) the details of irrigation projects undertaken under the Special package in the 2024-25 budget to address agrarian distress in Marathwada, including the scope, fund allocation and progress of each individual project;

(b) the details of measures implemented in the past to address chronic drought situation in Marathwada including the financial and physical progress of these measures;

(c) whether Government recognizes the high incidence of farmer suicides in Marathwada districts;

(d) the specific steps taken to address this crisis, including the implementation of watershed management, rainwater harvesting other drought-mitigation initiatives strategies; and

(e) whether Government is developing any river-linking project to ensure irrigation in Marathwada?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY**)**

(a) A Special Package scheme for completion of irrigation projects to address agrarian distress in Vidarbha and Marathwada and other chronically drought prone areas of rest of Maharashtra has also been approved by Government of India in July, 2018. 17 surface minor irrigation projects of Marathwada region have been included under this scheme. 9 projects have been completed and balance 8 projects are ongoing. 6,183 hectare irrigation potential has been developed through these minor irrigation projects till December, 2024.

The details of the projects of Marathwada region of Maharashtra undertaken under Special Package scheme including scope in terms of target irrigation potential, fund allocation in terms of expenditure and central assistance released and progress in terms of irrigation potential created are placed as **Annexure.**

(b) to (d) Water, being State subject, water resources projects are planned, funded, executed and maintained by the State Governments themselves as per their own resources and priority. In order to supplement their efforts, Government of India provides technical and financial assistance to State Governments to encourage sustainable development and efficient management of water resources under various ongoing schemes.

Incidences of farmer suicides in Marathwada region has been reported by Government of Maharashtra. Steps taken to address chronic drought situation in Marathwada region are as follows:

1. As reported by Government of Maharashtra, ultimate irrigation potential of Marathwada region is 19.50 lakh hectare, out of which 16.80 lakh hectare irrigation potential has been created through 1,270 completed and ongoing projects.

2. Besides Special package mentioned at point (a), Government of India has also included 4 major and medium projects viz. Lower Dudhna Project, Nandur Madhmeshwar Phase-II Project, Upper Kundalika Project and Upper Penganga Project, benefitting Marathwada region under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) and Command Area Development and Water Management (CAD&WM) components of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojna (PMKSY). 1.09 lakh hectare irrigation potential has been created and 52.15 thousand hectare cultivable command area has been developed through these projects till December, 2024. Central assistance of Rs. 1,222.69 crore has been provided to these projects.
3. 3,285 works in 30 clusters amounting to Rs. 183 crore, including natural resource management component for soil and water conservation measures, benefitting Marathwada region has been included under Watershed Development (WD) component of PMKSY.
4. Government of Maharashtra has identified 916 villages in Marathwada for catchment area and drainage line treatment under Jalyukt Shiver Abhiyan 2.0.
5. Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) under this Ministry has taken up various artificial recharge projects in Marathwada and Vidarbha region. In this endeavor, aquifer recharge in Osmanabad aspirational district has been undertaken during 2018-20.
6. CGWB has taken up Aquifer Mapping and Management Programme under the scheme Ground Water Management and Regulation. The aquifer mapping for the entire mappable area of the country, including Marathwada region has been completed. The ground water management plans have been prepared and shared with respective State Governments for taking appropriate measures/implementation.
7. To address the issue of development of irrigation in water scarce drought prone areas in India, special provisions have been made in criteria for selection of projects and central funding ratio under PMKSY-AIBP. If a project has more than 50% command in drought prone area, 50% advance stage criteria has been relaxed and the project can be included since beginning of the construction with enhance funding ratio of 60 (Centre): 40 (State) in the proportion of command area falling in drought prone area.
8. Government of Maharashtra has also intimated regarding various measures being implemented under many schemes to support farmers viz. PMKISAN, Late Vasantrao Naik ShetiSwavalamban Mission, Krushi Samruddhi scheme, Mahatma Jyotirao Phule Farmer Loan Waiver Scheme, Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme, Namo Kisan Mahasamman Nidhi Scheme etc.

(e) National Water Development Agency under this Ministry has prepared pre-feasibility report of three intra-State river interlinking projects benefitting Marathwada region namely Wainganga–Manjra valley link project, Nar–Par–Girna valley link project and Upper Krishna – Bhima link project. Though, first two intra-State river interlinking projects have not been found techno-economically feasible.

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ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 678 TO BE ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 10.02.2025 REGARDING SPECIAL PACKAGE FOR VIDARBHA AND MARATHWADA.

List of Projects under Special Package scheme in Marathwada Region of Maharashtra

S.No.	Name of the Project	Target Irrigation Potential (in hectare)	Irrigation Potential created (in hectare)	Estimated Cost (in Rs. crore)	Expenditure incurred (in Rs. crore)	Central assistance released (in Rs. crore)	Districts Benefitted
1.	Titwi	255	0	13.80	6.26	3.13	Aurangabad
2.	Banoti*	265	265	32.66	35.32	6.66	
3.	DevgaonRangari	1012	458	124.78	132.17	17.99	
4.	Wangaon Pohari*	473	473	61.06	50.81	12.30	
5.	Sawaladbara S.T.*	302	302	21.96	7.47	1.83	
6.	Palasakheda	930	360	53.29	463.62	4.32	Jalna
7.	Barbada	1225	0	240.95	26.40	0.00	
8.	Hatwan	1695	0	379.14	16.66	0.00	
9.	Patoda	1095	0	112.27	47.59	2.41	
10.	Sonkheda S.T.	445	0	56.80	50.42	10.53	
11.	Khoradsawangi M.I.	254	154	21.04	12.28	0.17	
12.	Daresarsam S.T.*	258	258	17.12	10.07	8.44	Nanded
13.	Maniramkhed L.M.I.P.*	1200	1200	96.11	46.47	2.38	
14.	Borasuri St. Tank*	310	310	46.90	59.26	10.88	Latur
15.	Vairagad St. Tank*	848	848	45.33	40.67	9.45	
16.	Chondi St. Tank*	765	765	24.56	11.19	2.80	
17.	Satra Potra S,T.*	790	790	36.78	36.04	5.72	Beed

* Projects completed

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 740

ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

DISCHARGE OF UNTREATED, POLLUTED WATER INTO GANGA AND YAMUNA RIVER IN PRAYAGRAJ

740. # SHRI SANDEEP KUMAR PATHAK

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

(a) whether polluted and untreated water is directly being discharged into Ganga and Yamuna river through drains in Prayagraj, if so, the reason therefor; and

(b) the steps taken by the Central Government in collaboration with the State Government to ensure that the polluted water of the city and villages is not discharged into the Ganga and Yamuna river during the Maha Kumbh?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY**)**

(a) No. The polluted and untreated water is not discharged into the river Ganga or Yamuna through drains in Prayagraj.

(b) The National Mission for Clean Ganga has taken the following major steps:

1. Provided part financial assistance and sanctioned a project for remediation of untapped Drains during Maha Kumbh 2025 at Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh under Namami Gange Mission -2 to prevent the discharge of untapped drains into the river Ganga or Yamuna;

2. Provided financial assistance and sanctioned proposal for Sanitation infrastructure for Maha Kumbh 2025 at Prayagraj in Uttar Pradesh under Namami Gange Mission-2 for providing 48,100 nos. of toilets & urinals and 20,000 nos. solid waste bins along with liner bags;

3. Issued an ‘Advisory’ to the concerned stakeholders to ensure continuous and unhindered operations of the sewage treatment plants and sanitation infrastructure and to comply with the applicable discharge standards.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 738

ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

GROUNDWATER DEPLETION IN HARYANA

738. SMT. KIRAN CHOUDHRY

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the increasing groundwater depletion in the State of Haryana;

(b) if so, the measures that have been taken by Government to address this issue; and

(c) the technological interventions made by Government to ensure proper recharge of groundwater resources?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY**)**

(a) Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) monitors groundwater levels throughout the country, including Haryana, four times in every year through its network of monitoring stations. In order to understand the long term trends of ground water levels in Haryana, the water level data collected by CGWB for Haryana during November 2024 has been compared with the decadal mean of November months for ten years (2014-2023)**.** Analysis of such water level data indicates that about 46.7% of the wells monitored have registered rise in ground water levels.

(b) Water being a State subject, the responsibility of addressing the ground water related issues lies primarily with the concerned State Governments. However, the Central Government facilitates the efforts of the State Governments by way of technical and financial assistance through its various schemes and projects. In this direction, the important steps taken by the Ministry of Jal Shakti and other central ministries for sustainable management of ground water resources in the country are given below:-

i. The Government is implementing Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA) in the country since 2019 which is a mission mode and time bound programme for harvesting the rainfall and taking up water conservation activities. Currently, JSA 2024 is being implemented in the country with special focus on 151 water stressed districts of the country, including 10 such districts in Haryana. JSA is an umbrella campaign under which various ground water recharge and conservation related works are being taken up in convergence with various central and state schemes. As per the information under JSA, a total of around 1.49 lakh water conservation and rain water harvesting structures have been constructed in Haryana in last 4 years.

ii. CGWB has taken up National Aquifer Mapping and Management Programme (NAQUIM) with an aim to delineate aquifer disposition and their characterization. Entire mappable area of the country of around 25 lakh sq. km, including 44,179 sq km of Haryana, has been mapped under the scheme and

management plans have been shared with the respective State/District administrations for implementation.

iii. Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Groundwater- 2020 has been prepared by the CGWB for the entire country, including Haryana and shared with States/UTs providing a broad outline for construction of around 1.42 crore rain water harvesting and artificial recharge structures in the country to harness 185 BCM (Billion cubic meter) of water. For Haryana, the Masterplan recommends around 7.42 lakh structures.

iv. MoJS is implementing Atal Bhujal Yojana, which is a community led scheme for participatory ground water management focusing on demand side management of ground water in 80 water stressed districts in 7 States, Haryana being one among them.

v. Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare (DA & FW), GoI, is implementing Per Drop More Crop Scheme in the country, including Haryana, since 2015-16, which focuses on enhancing water use efficiency at farm level through Micro Irrigation and better on-farm water management practices to optimize the use of available water resources.

vi. Mission Amrit Sarovar was launched by the Government of India which aimed at developing and rejuvenating at least 75 water bodies in each district of the country, including Haryana. As an outcome nearly 69,000 Amrit Sarovars have been constructed/rejuvenated in the country, with 2,120 in Haryana.

vii. A total of 40 nos. of Public Interaction Programmes (PIPs) have been organized in the various parts of Haryana by CGWB and 07 nos. of Tier II and 14 nos. of Tier III trainings have been organized so far to promote awareness on groundwater.

(c) Understanding the pivotal need for harnessing the latest technology and also keeping pace with advanced global practices, this Ministry has inducted/upgraded several state-of-the-art technological features which are expected to help in more accurate mapping, monitoring and assessment of groundwater resources. Some of the major developments in this direction include the following :

i. Realizing the significance of having high frequency data on ground water, this Ministry has taken up the process of installing Digital Water Level Recorders (DWLRs) with telemetry systems throughout the country under its various schemes and projects like Ground Water Management & Regulation (GWM &R) Scheme, Atal Bhujal Yojana etc. The state governments, including Haryana, are also funded for carrying out the said activity under National Hydrology Project(NHP). These instruments transmit water level data directly from the field to a central server at high frequency which will facilitate near-real-time access to this data

ii. Heli-borne geophysical surveys adopting Transient Electromagnetic Methods have been carried out by CGWB in collaboration with CSIR-NGRI for high resolution mapping of aquifers in the arid north western areas of the country, including parts of Yamunanagar and Kurukshetra districts of Haryana. Several potential sites for ground water exploration as well as conducting artificial recharge were identified in the survey.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 737

ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

EASTERN RAJASTHAN CANAL PROJECT

737. # SHRI GHANSHYAM TIWARI

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Agreement made between the States of Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh on the Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project (ERCP); and

(b) the parts of Rajasthan that would be getting benefited from ERCP, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY**)**

(a) & (b) Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project (ERCP) was proposed as a standalone project by the Government of Rajasthan. However, with a view to optimize the utilization of water of the Chambal River System and based on deliberations held with the State Governments of Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh (MP) at various platforms, a proposal for the Modified Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal (Modified PKC) link project has been framed, incorporating therein the components as proposed by the Government of MP in Kuno, Parbati and Kalisindh sub-basins along with the components of ERCP, as proposed by the Government of Rajasthan. A Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) for implementation of the Modified PKC link project has been signed on 05.12.2024 amongst the States of Rajasthan and MP and the Government of India.

The project is envisaged to provide benefits to MP extending annual irrigation to command area of about 6 lakh hectare (ha) by utilizing about 1815 Million Cubic Meter (MCM) of water and drinking water supply of about 71 MCM of water to the districts of Shivpuri, Gwalior, Bhind, Morena, Sheopur, Shajapur, Agar Malwa, Rajgarh, Sehore, Guna, Ratlam, Mandsaur, Ujjain, Dhar and Dewas including Malwa region. In Rajasthan, the link project is planned to provide drinking water (about 1744 MCM of water) to targeted population of 21 districts of Eastern Rajasthan (Jhalawar, Baran, Kota, Bundi, Tonk, Sawai Madhopur, Gangapur city, Dausa, Karauli, Dholpur, Bharatpur, Deeg, Alwar, Khairthal-Tijara, Kotputali - Behror, Jaipur urban, Jaipur rural, Dudu, Ajmer, Beawar, Kekri) and en-route towns, tanks and villages as well as to meet industrial water demand of about 205 MCM of water for Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC) and other industries. There is also a provision of about 1360 MCM of water for irrigating more than 2.5 lakh ha of new command area as well as stabilizing the existing command area of about 1.5 lakh ha in Rajasthan.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 736

ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

ONGOING/UPCOMING RIVER-LINKING PROJECTS

736. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is in the process of starting/restarting certain river-linking projects in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has finalised a timeline for completion of ongoing/upcoming river-linking projects in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any study has been conducted by Government to study the benefits of upcoming river-linking projects; and

(f) if so, the findings of such a study and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY**)**

(a) to (c) In 1980, the Government of India formulated a National Perspective Plan (NPP) for Inter-linking of Rivers (ILR) for transferring water from surplus basins to deficit basins/areas. National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has been entrusted with the work of ILR under the NPP. 30 ILR projects have been identified under the NPP with two components, viz; Himalayan Component (14 projects) and Peninsular Component (16 projects). Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of 11 projects, Feasibility Reports (FRs) of 26 projects and Pre-Feasibility Report (PFRs) of all 30 ILR projects under the NPP have been completed. Detailed status of ILR Projects under the NPP is given at **Annexure.**

Ken-Betwa Link Project (KBLP) is the first ILR project under the NPP, implementation of which has started. The project is planned to be completed by March, 2030. For other link projects, schedule of completion would depend upon the party States arriving at a consensus and signing link specific Memorandum of Agreements (MoAs) for their implementation.

(d) to (e) As per the studies conducted by the NWDA to explore the benefits of the ILR projects under the NPP, the implementation of the NPP would give benefits of 25 million hectare (ha) of irrigation from surface waters, 10 million ha by increased use of ground waters, raising the ultimate irrigation potential of the country from 140 million ha to 175 million ha, apart from generation of power and other incidental benefits of flood control, navigation, water supply, fisheries, salinity and pollution control, etc. Details of the benefits of the ILR Projects under the NPP are, *inter alia*, contained in the **Annexure.**

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (c) AND (d) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 736 TO BE ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 10.02.2025 REGARDING "ONGOING/UPCOMING RIVER-LINKING PROJECTS".

DETAILED STATUS OF ILR PROJECTS UNDER THE NPP AND THEIR BENEFITS

Peninsular Component

Sl.No	Name	States benefited	Annual Irrigation (Lakh ha)	Domestic & Industrial (Million Cubic Metres) (MCM)	Hydro power (Megawatt) (MW)	Status
1	Mahanadi (Manibhadra) - Godavari (Dowlaiswaram) link	Andhra Pradesh (AP) and Odisha	4.43	802	445	FR completed
	Alternate Mahanadi (Barmul) - Rushikulya – Godavari (Dowlaiswaram) link	AP and Odisha	6.25 (0.91 + 3.52 + 1.82*)	700 +125*	210 + 240*	FR completed
2	Godavari (Polavaram) - Krishna (Vijayawada) link @@	AP	2.1	162	--	FR completed
3	a.)Godavari (Inchampalli) - Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) link	Telangana	2.87	237	975+ 70= 1045	FR completed
	b.) Alternate Godavari (Inchampalli) - Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) link **	Telangana	2.38	232	26	DPR completed
4	Godavari (Inchampalli/ SSMPP) - Krishna (Pulichintala) link	Telangana and AP	4.74 (0.36+ 4.38)	346	90	DPR completed
5	a.) Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) - Pennar (Somasila) link	AP	5.81	124	90	FR completed
	b.)Alternate Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) - Pennar (Somasila) link **	AP	1.71	236	40	DPR completed
6	Krishna (Srisailam) – Pennar link	AP	1.79	58	11	Draft DPR completed
7	Krishna (Almatti) – Pennar link	Karnataka	0.69	467	--	Draft DPR completed
		AP	1.57	29.83		
8	a. Pennar (Somasila) - Cauvery (Grand Anicut) link	AP, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry	4.91 (0.49+4.36 +0.06)	1105	--	FR completed
	b. Alternate Pennar (Somasila) - Cauvery (Grand Anicut) link **	AP	0.51	43		DPR completed
		Tamil Nadu	1.14	618		
		Puducherry	--	62		
9	Cauvery (Kattalai) - Vaigai -Gundar link	Tamil Nadu	4.48	218	--	DPR completed

10	a.Parbati –Kalisindh - Chambal link	Madhya Pradesh (MP) and Rajasthan	Alt.I = 2.30 Alt.II = 2.20	- 13.2	--	FR completed
	b. Modified Parbati – Kalisindh-Chambal link (duly integrated with ERCP)	MP and Rajasthan	3.38 (as per draft PFR) MP – 2.58 Rajasthan-0.8	Rajasthan-Domestic-1723 MCM Industrial-286 MCM MP-Domestic-36 MCM	-	Draft PFR completed
11	Damanganga - Pinjal link	Maharashtra (only water supply to Mumbai)	--	895	5	DPR completed
12	Par-Tapi-Narmada link	Gujarat	2.28	76	21	DPR completed
		Maharashtra	0.04	--	--	
13	Ken-Betwa link	Uttar Pradesh (UP) and Madhya Pradesh	10.62 (2.51 +8.11)	194	103 MW (Hydro) & 27MW (Solar)	DPR completed & implementation started
14	Pamba - Achankovil - Vaippar link	Tamil Nadu	0.91	--	3.87	FR completed
		Kerala			504.5	
15	Bedti - Varda link@	Karnataka	1.05	38	--	DPR completed
16	Netravati – Hemavati link***	Karnataka	0.34	--	--	PFR completed

*Benefit to Odisha from Six Projects of Govt. of Odisha

** Due to pending consensus on Manibhadra and Inchampalli dams, Alternate study to divert unutilized waters of Godavari river was carried out and DPR of Godavari (Inchampalli/ Janampet) – Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) - Pennar (Somasila) – Cauvery (Grand Anicut) link projects completed. Godavari-Cauvery (Grand Anicut) link project has been prepared comprising of Godavari (Inchampalli / Janampet) - Krishna (Nagarjunasagar), Krishna (Nagarjunasagar)- Pennar (Somasila) and Pennar(Somasila)-Cauvery(Grand Anicut) link projects. The report was further updated terminating the link link canal at Manimukhtanadi, a tributary of Vellar river flowing adjacent of Cauvery basin.

@ Bedti – Varda Link- DPR was prepared directly after preparation of its PFR, no FR was prepared.

@@ Godavari (Polavaram)- Krishna (Vijayawada) Link- the project has been taken up by Govt. of Andhra Pradesh.

*** Further studies are not taken up since after implementation of Yettinahole project by Govt. of Karnataka, no surplus water is available in Netravati basin for diversion through this link.

Note: For PKC links at Serial no.10 (a): Alt I- Linking with GandhisagarDam, Alt. II- Linking with Rana Pratapsagar Dam

Himalayan Component

Sl.No	Name	States / Countries benefited	Annual Irrigation (Lakh ha)	Domestic & Industrial (MCM)	Hydro power (MW)	Status
1.	Kosi-Mechi link	Bihar and Nepal	4.74 (2.99+1.75)	24	3180	PFR completed
2.	Kosi-Ghaghra link	Bihar, UP and Nepal	8.35 (6.05+1.20 +1.10)	0	--	FR completed
3.	Gandak - Ganga link	UP and Nepal	34.58 (28.80+5.78)	700	4375 Dam Power House (PH) & 180 Canal PH	FR completed
4.	Ghaghra - Yamuna link	UP and Nepal	27.84 (25.30 + 2.54)	1391	10884	Draft FR completed
5.	Sarda - Yamuna link	UP and Uttarakhand	2.95 (2.65 + 0.30)	3054	6620	FR completed
6.	Yamuna-Rajasthan link	Haryana and Rajasthan	2.51 (0.11+ 2.40)	30	--	FR completed
7.	Rajasthan-Sabarmati link	Rajasthan and Gujarat	11.53 (11.21+0.32)	102	--	FR completed
8.	Chunar-Sone Barrage link	Bihar and UP	0.67 (0.13 + 0.54)	--	--	Draft FR completed
9.	Sone Dam - Southern Tributaries of Ganga link	Bihar and Jharkhand	3.07 (2.39 + 0.68)	360	90 Dam PH & 5 Canal PH	Draft FR completed
10.	Manas-Sankosh-Tista-Ganga (M-S-T-G) link	Assam, West Bengal (WB) and Bihar	3.41 (2.05 + 1.00 + 0.36)	--	--	FR completed
11.	Jogighopa-Tista-Farakka link (Alternative to M-S-T-G)	Assam, WB and Bihar	3.559 (0.975+ 1.564+ 1.02)	265	360	PFR completed (The proposal has been dropped)
12.	Farakka-Sundarbans link	WB	1.50	184	--	FR completed
13.	Ganga(Farakka) - Damodar-Subarnarekha link	WB, Odisha and Jharkhand	12.30 (11.18+ 0.39+ 0.73)	432	--	FR completed
14.	Subarnarekha-Mahanadi link	WB and Odisha	2.16 (0.18+ 1.98)	198	20	FR completed

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 735

ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION

735. SHRI ANIL KUMAR YADAV MANDADI

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that groundwater across the country is contaminated which causes serious health hazards to living being;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is also aware of the fact that National Green Tribunal has raised serious concern over the issue of groundwater contamination; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY**)**

(a) & (b) Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) conducts ground water quality monitoring for several contaminants Nitrate, Arsenic, Fluoride, Heavy metals etc. on a regular basis throughout the country and also generates ground water quality data on a regional scale during various scientific studies. These studies indicate that ground water in the country is largely potable. However, occurrence of the said contaminants in ground water beyond permissible limits (as per BIS) for human consumption in isolated pockets in various States / UTs has been reported.

As per the Annual Ground Water Quality Report 2024 of CGWB, Nitrate beyond permissible limit has been reported in isolated pockets of 440 districts in 23 States/UTs. Similarly, Fluoride is detected in isolated pockets of 263 districts in 20 States/UTs. Further, Arsenic has been reported in isolated parts of 118 districts in 20 States.

(c) & (d) Comprehensive steps have been taken by the Ministry of Jal Shakti in co-ordination with the concerned States to address the issue of ground water contamination in the country. Government of India has taken proactive measures to address the concerns of the National Green Tribunal (NGT) regarding contamination by way of implementing Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in the country since August 2019 with an aim to provide potable tap water supply of prescribed quality and on regular &long term basis to every rural household in the country. Under JJM, top priority is accorded to quality-affected habitations.

As a result of cumulative efforts, it is reported that from August 2019 to January 2025 the number of Arsenic and Fluoride affected habitations in the country have declined from 14,020 to 314 and from 7,996 to 254 respectively. These remaining habitations have also been provided clean, & safe drinking water through Community Water Purifier Plants (CWPPs).

In addition to the above, Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) is also actively involved in ensuring availability of potable quality ground water by way constructing arsenic/ fluoride-safe wells and also disseminating the technology involved.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 734

ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

CURRENT STATUS AND ACHIEVEMENTS UNDER AMRIT SAROVAR MISSION

734. SHRI KARTIKEYA SHARMA

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

(a) the current status and key achievements of the Amrit Sarovar Mission, including the number of water bodies developed or rejuvenated under the scheme, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

b) the manner in which the scheme has impacted the groundwater rejuvenation and agricultural productivity across States, particularly in water-scarce regions like Rajasthan and Haryana, if so, the details thereof, district-wise; and

(c) the measures being taken to ensure long-term sustainability and community participation in maintaining these water bodies, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY**)**

(a) & (b) Mission Amrit Sarovar was launched in April 2022 with the ambitious goal of constructing/rejuvenating 75 Amrit Sarovars (ponds) in each district, totalling 50,000 across the country. This initiative has made significant progress in addressing the critical issue of water scarcity. As of October 2024, over 68,000 Sarovars have been completed, enhancing surface and groundwater availability across various regions. The Ground Water Resources Assessment by Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), in collaboration with State Governments, shows a significant rise in groundwater recharge due to sustained conservation efforts. Recharge from tanks, ponds and water conservation structures increased from 13.98 Billion Cubic Meters (BCM) in 2017 to 25.34 BCM in 2024, reflecting the success of water conservation such as Mission Amrit Sarovar and the role of tanks, ponds & water conservation structures in sustaining groundwater levels. State-wise details of Amrit Sarovar completed are at **Annexure-I**. These Sarovars have not only addressed immediate water needs but also established sustainable water sources that can be utilised for irrigation and other purposes thereby improving agricultural productivity. District-wise details of Amrit Sarovar completed for State of Rajasthan & Haryana are at **Annexure-II** and **Annexure-III** respectively.

(c) Peoples' participation has been the key to the entire Mission. To encourage mobilization of citizens and non-Government resources for supplementing the Government's efforts to achieve the target, explicit provisions have been made in the guidelines of the Mission Amrit Sarovars as follows:

i. Laying the foundation stone for the Amrit Sarovar to be led by freedom fighter or her/his family member or by the family of martyr (post-independence) or a local Padma awardee, and in case no such citizen is available, by the eldest member of the local Gram Panchayat.

ii. Provision for people to participate by donating construction material, benches and by Shramdaan.

iii. If village community so desires, beautification works on the Sarovar site may mobilize necessary donations through crowd sourcing and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) contributions.

iv. Provision has been made that on the occasion of Independence Day/ Republic Day, Tricolour to be hoisted at each Amrit Sarovar site, by the freedom fighter or his/her family member or by the family member of martyr or a local Padma Awardee. On Amrit Sarovars sites, National event has been celebrated.

The Mission promotes the formation of user groups, particularly among farmers, fisherfolk, and local communities, to ensure optimal use of water resources for irrigation, aquaculture, and allied activities.

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ANNEXURE I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 734 TO BE ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 10.02.2025 REGARDING "CURRENT STATUS AND ACHIEVEMENTS UNDER AMRIT SAROVAR MISSION".

State-wise details of Amrit Sarovars completed		
Sr. No.	**State**	**Total Number of Amrit Sarovars Completed**
1	ANDAMAN & NICOBAR	227
2	ANDHRA PRADESH	2154
3	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	772
4	ASSAM	2966
5	BIHAR	2613
6	CHHATTISGARH	2902
7	GOA	159
8	GUJARAT	2650
9	HARYANA	2088
10	HIMACHAL PRADESH	1691
11	JAMMU AND KASHMIR	1056
12	JHARKHAND	2048
13	KARNATAKA	4056
14	KERALA	866
15	LADAKH	100
16	MADHYA PRADESH	5839
17	MAHARASHTRA	3055
18	MANIPUR	1226
19	MEGHALAYA	705
20	MIZORAM	1031
21	NAGALAND	256
22	ODISHA	2367
23	PUDUCHERRY	152
24	PUNJAB	1450
25	RAJASTHAN	3138
26	SIKKIM	199
27	TAMIL NADU	2487
28	TELANGANA	1872
29	THE DADRA AND NAGAR HAVELI AND DAMAN AND DIU	58
30	TRIPURA	682
31	UTTARAKHAND	1322
32	UTTAR PRADESH	16630
33	WEST BENGAL	25
	Total	**68842**

ANNEXURE II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 734 TO BE ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 10.02.2025 REGARDING "CURRENT STATUS AND ACHIEVEMENTS UNDER AMRIT SAROVAR MISSION".

District-wise details of Amrit Sarovars completed in Rajasthan		
Sr. No.	**District**	**Total Number of Amrit Sarovars Completed**
1	Ajmer	104
2	Alwar	119
3	Banswara	148
4	Baran	75
5	Barmer	97
6	Bharatpur	69
7	Bhilwara	140
8	Bikaner	124
9	Bundi	107
10	Chittaurgarh	74
11	Churu	104
12	Dausa	78
13	Dhaulpur	67
14	Dungarpur	109
15	Ganganagar	95
16	Hanumangarh	69
17	Jaipur	99
18	Jaisalmer	87
19	Jalor	100
20	Jhalawar	107
21	Jhunjhunun	75
22	Jodhpur	103
23	Karauli	95
24	Kota	68
25	Nagaur	98
26	Pali	130
27	Pratapgarh	48
28	Rajsamand	76
29	Sawai Madhopur	69
30	Sikar	79
31	Sirohi	97
32	Tonk	99
33	Udaipur	129
	Total	**3,138**

ANNEXURE III

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 734 TO BE ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 10.02.2025 REGARDING "CURRENT STATUS AND ACHIEVEMENTS UNDER AMRIT SAROVAR MISSION".

District-wise details of Amrit Sarovars completed in Haryana		
Sr. No.	**District**	**Total Number Of Amrit Sarovars Completed**
1	Ambala	95
2	Bhiwani	141
3	Charki Dadri	57
4	Faridabad	33
5	Fatehabad	153
6	Gurugram	48
7	Hisar	170
8	Jhajjar	40
9	Jind	163
10	Kaithal	86
11	Karnal	153
12	Kurukshetra	109
13	Mahendragarh	88
14	Nuh	88
15	Palwal	43
16	Panchkula	29
17	Panipat	95
18	Rewari	92
19	Rohtak	88
20	Sirsa	103
21	Sonipat	70
22	Yamunanagar	144
	Total	**2088**

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 733

ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

DRYING WATER BODIES

733. MS. SUSHMITA DEV

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any comprehensive survey or mapping of drying water bodies across the country, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) the list of major water bodies that are at risk of completely drying up in the near future, State-wise;

(c) whether Government has taken any steps to prevent encroachment and illegal construction on the banks of rivers, lakes, and other water bodies that may contribute to their drying, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the current schemes for the revival and restoration of drying water bodies and the fund allocated and utilised during the last five years?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY**)**

(a) & (b) Ministry of Jal Shakti has conducted the 1st Census of Water Bodies in 33 States/UTs under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Irrigation Census" with reference year 2017-18 with 100% central assistance. The census was conducted by the Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India in all States/UTs through nodal departments identified in each State/UT for this purpose. In the census, information on all important aspects of water body was collected which inter-alia include information on condition, status of encroachments, use, storage capacity, status of filling up of storage, reason for water body not in use including drying up of water bodies, etc. Details of water bodies which are not in use on account of being dried up are given at **Annexure-I**.

(c) Action on reported encroachment of water bodies comes under the purview of the State Government concerned. However, the Union Government has been sensitizing the State Governments regarding importance of water bodies. Need for taking necessary steps for keeping the water bodies encroachment free, such as stopping illegal construction, inclusion of water bodies in land records and making them integral part of town planning process, strict action against encroachers, etc. are also being emphasized to the State Governments by Union Government, from time to time.

(d) Government of India launched "Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY)" in Financial Year 2015-16 with an aim to enhance physical access of water on farm and expand cultivable area under assured irrigation, improve on farm water use efficiency, introduce sustainable water conservation practices etc. Har Khet Ko Pani (HKKP) is one of the components of PMKSY. Under this component, the scheme of Repair, Renovation & Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies provides Central Assistance (CA) to States for creation and restoration of Irrigation Potential of Water Bodies. Under this scheme, the details of CA released to States during last 5 years are given in **Annexure-II**.

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ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 733 TO BE ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 10.02.2025 REGARDING "DRYING WATER BODIES".

State/UT wise number of water bodies not in use on account of being dried up		
S.No.	**States/UTs**	**Number of Water bodies Not in use on account of being dried up**
1	Andaman & Nicobar Island	102
2	Andhra Pradesh	1889
3	Arunachal Pradesh	12
4	Assam	2472
5	Bihar	3957
6	Chandigarh	0
7	Chhattisgarh	1297
8	Delhi	77
9	Goa	61
10	Gujarat	3
11	Haryana	180
12	Himachal Pradesh	4904
13	Jammu & Kashmir	1051
14	Jharkhand	4074
15	Karnataka	3204
16	Kerala	642
17	Madhya Pradesh	8036
18	Maharashtra	194
19	Manipur	13
20	Meghalaya	134
21	Mizoram	23
22	Nagaland	11
23	Odisha	5600
24	Puducherry	2
25	Punjab	471
26	Rajasthan	1688
27	Sikkim	8
28	Tamil Nadu	21449
29	Telangana	9540
30	Tripura	0
31	Uttarakhand	204
32	Uttar Pradesh	21374
33	West Bengal	337
	Total	**93009**

ANNEXURE-II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 733 TO BE ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 10.02.2025 REGARDING "DRYING WATER BODIES".

Central Assistance (CA) released under RRR of Water Bodies component of PMKSY-HKKP *(Rs. in crores)*					
Year	**2019-20**	**2020-21**	**2021-22**	**2022-23**	**2023-24**
CA released	**64.79**	**35.79**	**26.05**	**58.54**	**135.97**

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 732

ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

POLLUTION OF RIVER BODIES

732. SHRI P. WILSON

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

(a) according to the 2022 report by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), 603 rivers across the country were monitored, revealing that 311 river stretches across 279 rivers were polluted, whether Government has devised an action plan, issued advisories, or undertaken initiatives to address this issue, if so, details thereof;

(b) if not, the reasons for not addressing this issue; and

(c) whether Government has undertaken census of water bodies in the country, if so, the details of number of water bodies in urban and rural areas, State-wise?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY**)**

(a) & (b) Cleaning/Rejuvenation of rivers is a continuous process. It is the primary responsibility of States/Union Territories (UTs) and Urban Local Bodies to ensure required treatment of sewage and industrial effluents to the prescribed norms before discharging into the rivers and other water bodies.

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has issued orders Original Application No. 673/2018, in which the NGT directed that all States/UTs should prepare action plans for the rejuvenation of polluted river stretches in the country identified by CPCB. In compliance of these orders the States/UTs have got their action plan prepared and got approved from the competent authority. As per the direction, for monitoring, the implementation of said action plans is reviewed at all States/UTs and the central level.

Further, The Govt. of India has been supplementing efforts of the States/UTs by providing financial assistance for abatement of pollution in rivers/tributaries in Ganga basin through the Central Sector Scheme of Namami Gange Program, and the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) for other rivers in the country.

(c) State-wise distribution of water bodies identified in the country can be accessed at: https://indiawris.gov.in/wris/#/swbody

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 731

ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

CONNECTING RIVERS IN WESTERN PART OF COUNTRY

731. SHRI ASHOKRAO SHANKARRAO CHAVAN

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to connect 11 major and minor rivers in western part of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the names of rivers selected for the said purpose;

(c) the amount of expenditure likely to be incurred on the said project and the amount of funds sanctioned/released for the said purpose;

(d) whether the Detailed Project Report (DPR) has been prepared by Government for the said project and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the Central Government has signed any MoU with respective State Government regarding the said project?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY**)**

(a) to (e) In 1980, the Government of India formulated a National Perspective Plan (NPP) for the Inter linking of Rivers (ILR) for transferring water from surplus basins to deficit basins/areas. 30 link projects have been identified under the NPP with two components, viz; Himalayan Component (14 link projects) and Peninsular Component (16 link projects).

There are 5 ILR projects under the NPP, in the western part of the country, viz; Yamuna- Rajasthan link, Rajasthan-Sabarmati link, Modified Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal (Modified PKC) link, Damanganga-Pinjal link and Par-Tapi-Narmada link. The details of these projects along with the status of preparation of the Detailed Project Report (DPR)/ Feasibility Report (FR)/ Pre-Feasibility Report (PFR) of these projects, the States benefitted and rivers to be interlinked therein are given at **Annexure-I**.

The above 5 ILR projects in the western part of the country have not yet reached the stage of implementation, as it is for the party States to reach a consensus for implementation of the respective ILR projects. Sanction/ release of funds to the projects would arise when these projects reach the stage of implementation. The estimated cost of the projects are given at **Annexure-II**.

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ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 731 TO BE ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 10.02.2025 REGARDING "CONNECTING RIVERS IN THE WESTERN PART OF THE COUNTRY"

DETAILS OF 5 ILR PROJECTS IN THE WESTERN PART OF THE COUNTRY

Sl. No.	Name of the Link	States benefitted	Status of DPRs/FRs/PFRs	Rivers
1.	Yamuna - Rajasthan link	Haryana and Rajasthan	FR completed	Yamuna
2.	Rajasthan - Sabarmati link	Rajasthan and Gujarat	FR completed	Luni, Sukri, Sagi, Bandi and Sukal Banas
3.	Modified Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal link project	Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh	PFR completed	Parbati, Kalisindh, Chambal, Kul, Banas, Mej, Kuno, Chamla, Shipra, Lakhunder, Newaj
4.	Damanganga-Pinjal link	Maharashtra	DPR completed	Damanganga, Pinjal
5.	Par-Tapi-Narmada link	Maharashtra and Gujarat	DPR completed	Par, Tapi and narmada

Other details of the above ILR projects are as under:

1. **Yamuna –Rajasthan link project:** The Yamuna-Rajasthan link is envisaged to offtake from the proposed Yamuna barrage in Haryana State and will terminate in the Jaisalmer district of Rajasthan State. Bhiwani district of Haryana and the desert areas of Hanumangarh, Bikaner & Jaisalmer districts of Rajasthan benefit from this link canal. The link canal is to provide for 2.51 lakh hectares (ha) of Annual irrigation (0.11 lakh ha in Haryana and 2.40 lakh ha in Rajasthan) and 30 (Million Cubic Meters) (MCM) of water for en-route domestic needs).

2. **Rajasthan-Sabarmati link project:** The Rajasthan-Sabarmati link canal is the extension of the Yamuna-Rajasthan link canal and it offtakes from the Jaisalmer district of Rajasthan and terminates at Banaskantha district of Gujarat State. The link project provides Annual irrigation for 11.53 lakh hectares of total area (11.21 lakh ha in Rajasthan and 0.32 lakh ha in Gujarat) and a Domestic Water supply of 102 MCM (97 MCM in Rajasthan and 5 MCM in Gujarat).

3. **Modified PKC Link project:** The draft PFR of the Modified PKC link and a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for preparing the DPR of the Modified PKC link was circulated to both States in January 2023. The persistent efforts of Govt. of India have led to the signing of MoU by both these States with Ministry of Jal Shakti (MoJS), Govt. of India (GoI) on 28.01.2024 in New Delhi in the presence of Hon'ble Chief Ministers of both the

states, for preparation of its DPR followed by the signing of Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) on 05.12.2024 amongst the States of Rajasthan and MP and the Government of India.

The project is envisaged to provide benefits to MP extending annual irrigation to command area of about 6 lakh hectare (ha) by utilizing about 1815 Million Cubic Meter (MCM) of water and drinking water supply of about 71 MCM of water to the districts of Shivpuri, Gwalior, Bhind, Morena, Sheopur, Shajapur, Agar Malwa, Rajgarh, Sehore, Guna, Ratlam, Mandsaur, Ujjain, Dhar and Dewas including Malwa region. In Rajasthan, the link project is planned to provide drinking water (about 1744 MCM of water) to targeted population of 21 districts of Eastern Rajasthan (Jhalawar, Baran, Kota, Bundi, Tonk, Sawai Madhopur, Gangapur city, Dausa, Karauli, Dholpur, Bharatpur, Deeg, Alwar, Khairthal-Tijara, Kotputali - Behror, Jaipur urban, Jaipur rural, Dudu, Ajmer, Beawar, Kekri) and en-route towns, tanks and villages as well as to meet industrial water demand of about 205 MCM of water for Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC) and other industries. There is also a provision of about 1360 MCM of water for irrigating more than 2.5 lakh ha of new command area as well as stabilizing the existing command area of about 1.5 lakh ha in Rajasthan.

4. D**amanganga-Pinjal Link** envisages diversion of water from Bhigad [7.41 Thousand Million Cubic feet (TMC)] dams in Damangang**river** basin to Vaitarna river basin, which will make an additional 1586 MLD (20.44 TMC) of water will be available from Pinjal dam in Vaitarna river basin. Thus, total of 31.60 TMC of water will be available for water supply to Mumbai city.

5. **Par-Tapi-Narmada Link Project** envisages utilization of 46.96 TMC of surplus water of Par, Auranga, Ambica and Purna river basins for utilization in enroute irrigation and to meet drinking water needs in the **vicinity** of the project. This Project will also take over a part of the commands area of the existing Miyagam Branch canal of Narmada canal system so that water saved in Sardar Sarovar Project could be taken further northwards to benefit water scarce areas of Saurashtra and Kutch regions in Gujarat.

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ANNEXURE-II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 731 TO BE ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 10.02.2025 REGARDING "CONNECTING RIVERS IN THE WESTERN PART OF THE COUNTRY"

Estimated Cost of the ILR projects in the western part of the country

S. No.	Name of Link	Project Cost (Rs. in crore)
1.	Yamuna-Rajasthan link	Rs. 33,744.64 at Price Level (PL) of 2020-21
2.	Rajasthan-Sabarmati link	Rs. 25,299.39 at PL of 2019-20
3.	Modified Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal link project	-
4.	Damanganga-Pinjal link	Rs. 3,008 at PL of 2015-16
5.	Par-Tapi-Narmada link	Rs. 10,211 at PL of 2014-15

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 729

ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

IMPLEMENTATION OF FLOOD PLAIN ZONING REGULATIONS

729. SHRI BABUBHAI JESANGBHAI DESAI

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has proposed making the Flood Plain Zoning Legislation mandatory for States to access central flood management funds; and

(b) if so, the measures that are being taken to encourage States to implement the Flood Plain Zones (Regulation and Development) Act, 2005 and demarcate flood zones, considering that only four States have enacted such legislation to date?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY**)**

(a) Union Government had implemented Flood Management Programme (FMP) during XI & XII Plans for providing central assistance to States for works related to flood control, anti-erosion, drainage development, anti-sea erosion, etc. which subsequently continued as a component of "Flood Management and Border Areas Programme" (FMBAP) for the period from 2017-18 to 2020-21 and was further extended up to 2026.The new critical flood management projects from only those states who have implemented Flood Plain zoning (FPZ) either through a legislation or through an appropriate Executive order may only be considered for funding under FMP component of FMBAP scheme during XV Finance commission Cycle.

(b) There is no as such Flood Plain Zones (Regulation and Development) Act, 2005 by Government of India.

With the aim to provide hindrance free natural flow of river and mitigation of likely damage by floods, a model draft bill for flood plain zoning legislation was circulated by the Union Government in 1975 for guidance of all the States/Union Territories for enactment of legislation. Only four States have enacted flood plain zoning in their State. Further, this Ministry has circulated a technical guideline on Flood Plain Zoning to States/UTs for guidance. The flood plain zoning guidelines envisages zoning of a flood plain of a river according to flood frequencies and defines the type of use of flood plain.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 728

ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

STATUS AND EFFECTIVENESS OF E-FLOW MONITORING SYSTEM UNDER NGP

728. SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of the E-flow Monitoring System launched for real-time monitoring of river quality and ecological flows in the Ganga and its tributaries;

(b) the details of the performance of STPs monitored under the Namami Gange Programme (NGP), including their operational capacity and compliance with rated standards;

(c) the steps that are being taken to address issues such as impeded river flow and ecological damage caused by dams along Ganga river; and

(d) the details of progress made under the Namami Gange Mission, including timelines for completing ongoing projects and plans to expand river rejuvenation programmes to other rivers?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY**)**

(a) Central Water Commission (CWC) has been entrusted with the responsibility of monitoring the compliance on maintenance of desired e-flows. Monitoring of e-flows is being carried out by CWC since 1st January, 2019.

(b) NMCG monitors the performance of the STPs installed in Ganga basin through Online Continuous Effluent Monitoring System (OCEMS) and reviews the performance in Central Monitoring Committee meeting. As per the report submitted to Central Monitoring Committee (CMC), there are total 732 STPs, out of which 542 STPs are complying with the prescribed standards;

(c) Government of India vide Gazette notification dated 9th October 2018, has notified the minimum environmental flows for river Ganga that have to be maintained at various locations downstream of hydro-electric/multipurpose projects on the river. The major steps taken for ecological restoration and conservation in Ganga basin includes;

i. Biodiversity Conservation: Seven Biodiversity Parks in seven districts (Mirzapur, Bulandshahar, Hapur, Budaun, Ayodhya, Bijnore and Pratapgarh) of Uttar Pradesh and 5 priority wetlands in Uttar Pradesh (3), Bihar (1) and Jharkhand (1) have been sanctioned;

ii. NMCG, through the State Forest Department, has implemented a **forestry intervention** project along the main stem of river Ganga. 33,024 hectares area have been afforested with an expenditure of about ₹ 398 crores;

iii. A total of 143.8 lakhs of Indian Major Carp (IMC) fingerlings have been ranched in the Ganga since 2017 to conserve fish biodiversity and prey base for river Dolphins, and ensure the livelihood of fishers in the Ganga basin under the special project implemented by Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute (CIFRI);

iv. Science-based species restoration programme, rescue, and rehabilitation programme for aquatic species like Dolphins, Otters, Hilsa, Turtles, and Ghariyal in collaboration with Wild Life Institute of India (WII), Dehradun and State Forest Department, have shown marked improvements in biodiversity with increased sightings of Dolphins, Otters, Hilsa, Turtles, and other riverine species;

(d) The Government of India (GoI) launched the Namami Gange Programme (NGP) in 2014-15 for the rejuvenation of river Ganga and its tributaries (such as Yamuna, Ram Ganga, Saryu, Sone, Hindon, Gomti, Krishni, etc.) for five years, up to March 2021 and has been further extended to March 2026. Under the Namami Gange Programme, a diverse and holistic set of interventions for cleaning and rejuvenation of river Ganga have been taken up, that includes wastewater treatment, solid waste management, riverfront management (ghats and crematoria), ensuring e- flow, rural sanitation, afforestation, biodiversity conservation, public participation, etc. A total of 488 projects were sanctioned at an estimated cost of ₹ 39,730 crores, 305 projects have already been completed and made operational.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 727

ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

RELEASE OF WATER FROM THE DVC

727. SMT. SAGARIKA GHOSE

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to restrict and regulate the flow of the water released from the Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) to abate the chance of flooding in the State of West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reason therefor; and

(c) the details of action taken against the officials responsible for overflowing the dam water which have caused floods in the State of West Bengal?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY**)**

(a) & (b) Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) water system is operated by a Committee named, "Damodar Valley Reservoir Regulation Committee (DVRRC)" wherein all concerned states are members. All decisions regarding flood operation/release advice are taken in consultation with the representatives of all Stakeholders including the Government of West Bengal as per the set norms/Guide Curves/DVRRC manual.

(c) The question does not arise.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 726

ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

CLEANING AND BEAUTIFICATION OF THE KAVERI RIVER

726. SHRI S. KALYANASUNDARAM

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plans for the cleaning and beautification of the Kaveri river across the Kumbakonam to Mayiladuthurai stretch, and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the TDS level of Kaveri river in Kumbakonam and the steps taken for the control of pollution in Kaveri river and the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY**)**

(a) to (b) It is the primary responsibility of States/Union Territories (UTs) and Urban Local Bodies to ensure required treatment of sewage and industrial effluents to the prescribed norms before discharging into the rivers and other water bodies.

The Govt. of India has been supplementing efforts of the States/UTs by providing financial assistance for abatement of pollution in rivers/tributaries in Ganga basin through the Central Sector Scheme of Namami Gange Program, and the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) for other rivers in the country.

Proposals for pollution abatement works, received from the States/UTs from time to time for consideration under NRCP, are sanctioned based on their prioritization, conformity with NRCP guidelines, independent appraisal, commitment of the States to bear the share towards Capex, full operation and maintenance cost, availability of plan funds, etc.

As per the Annual Report 2023 published by Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, TDS level in river Kaveri at Kumbakonam was found in the range of 322 – 332 milligram per litre. Annual Report can be accessed at: -

https://tnpcb.gov.in/pdf/wq/AnnualRptNWMP2023.pdf

For conservation of the river Kaveri, sewage treatment plants (STPs) of capacity 17 million litres per day (MLD) had been set up at Kumbakonam in Tamil Nadu under NRCP.

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DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 725

ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

IRRIGATION PROJECTS IN KARNATAKA

725. SHRI G.C. CHANDRASHEKHAR

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of Mekedatu, Upper Bhadra and Ettinahole irrigation and drinking water projects in the State of Karnataka;

(b) whether Government has declared Upper Bhadra Project (UBP) as national irrigation project and if so, the details thereof along with the funds earmarked and released so far; and

(c) whether the forest clearance has been obtained for Mekedatu project and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY**)**

(a) Mekedatu project was deliberated and discussed in the 28th meeting of Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) held on 01.02.2024 and after taking into account the views of the majority of the Members of the CWMA, the Authority has decided to referring back the project to Central Water Commission for examination of various technical/economical aspects of the project for establishing its feasibility. With regard to the Upper Bhadra Project and Yettinahole project, Government of Karnataka undertaking i.e. Visvesvaraya Jala Nigam Limited is implementing the projects.

(b) Government has not declared Upper Bhadra Project as National project.

(c) Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change has not granted approval under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 in respect of Mekedatu project in Karnataka

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 724

ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

POLLUTION OF YAMUNA AND OTHER RIVERS DESPITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT

724. SHRI SANT BALBIR SINGH

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

(a) whether rivers such as the Yamuna continue to be polluted despite the treatment of wastewater;

(b) the underlying reasons contributing to the persistent pollution of these rivers;

(c) whether it is a fact that several Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) are not functioning according to the required standards, leading to inadequate treatment of wastewater and the failure to clean river water effectively?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY**)**

(a) & (b) The common underlying reasons for pollution in rivers are;

i. Discharge of untreated/ partially treated sewage into rivers due to gap in treatment capacity and sewage generation;

ii. Absence of Effluent Treatment Plants/Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) in some industries/ industrial pockets;

iii. Delay in completion of new sewage treatment projects and rehabilitation and/or upgradation of sewage treatment projects.

(c) As informed by CPCB the Status of sewerage treatment plants functioning is given as under: -

SPCB/ PCC	**No of STPs**	**No. of Complying STPs**
Uttarakhand (October, 2024)	69	65
Himachal Pradesh (July-August, 2024)	80	52
Haryana (August, 2024)	84	68
Delhi (November 2024)	39	16 (w.r.t standards prescribed by DPCC).
Uttar Pradesh (October, 2024)	148	124

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DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 723

ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

SUBMERGENCE IN ODISHA DUE TO POLAVARAM PROJECT AND IMPACT ON INHABITANTS

723. DR. SASMIT PATRA

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

(a) total land area submergence in the State of Odisha due to Polavaram project when it is commissioned;

(b) total number of people affected due to such submergence;

(c) the number of them are tribals and their geographical locations;

(d) steps Government is taking to ensure that Palli Sabhas are done before the submergence; and

(e) manner in which Government is planning to rehabilitate and resettle them and the total funds to be utilized for the same?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY**)**

(a) to (c) There will be no submergence due to the Polavaram irrigation project in Odisha, if the option of building protective embankments with adequate drainage arrangement to protect the lands and properties above EL +150 ft is exercised by Odisha. However, if this option is not exercised then, as per Socio-economic Survey, 2005, an extent of 648.05 Hectares of land in Odisha will be affected. In this case, total number of project affected families in Odisha was estimated as 1,002 consisting of 6,316 persons in 8 revenue villages of Podia Mandal of Malkangiri District of Odisha. Out of these 1,002 families, 913 families belong to tribal community.

(d) Environment Clearance was accorded by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) on 25th Oct, 2005 based on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) studies carried out by the project proponent. In March 2009, the Expert Appraisal Committee of MoEF& CC has directed the project proponent to initiate suitable action by requesting the appropriate authorities in Odisha and Chhattisgarh for conducting public hearings in Odisha & Chhattisgarh in respect of embankment proposal and report back to the Committee. The Water Resources Department (WRD), Government of Andhra Pradesh and Polavaram Project Authority has made repeated requests to both the States for conducting public hearing in the affected areas of their respective States as per EIA notification, 2006 and as per the directions of MoEF&CC, however, public hearing is not yet held in Odisha & Chhattisgarh.

(e) Polavaram irrigation project is being taken up as per the interstate agreement between the States of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh (now Chhattisgarh) & Odisha dated 02.04.1980, and also as per the provisions of Godavari Water Dispute Tribunal (GWDT) Award, 1980 and as per these, Odisha can exercise option either for protective embankments with adequate drainage arrangements to protect the lands and properties likely to be affected above RL+150 ft in their territories or for compensation (rehabilitation and resettlement of displaced people from the affected villages) for the areas and properties going to be affected on the same pattern as below +150 ft, at the project cost. Further, provision for construction of protective embankment with suitable drainage arrangements for total length of 30.20 km (12 km along Sileru River and 18.20 km along Sabari River) in Malkangiri District of Odisha has been kept in the project.

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DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 722

ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

POOR WASTEWATER AND SEWAGE TREATMENT

722. SHRI JAVED ALI KHAN SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

(a) whether only 28 per cent of the urban wastewater and sewage generated in the country undergoes treatment while the rest 72 per cent flows directly into water bodies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken to expand urban wastewater treatment capacity to ensure that the untreated 72 per cent is brought under effective treatment systems along with estimated timelines and financial outlay for the same; and

(d) the measures taken by Government to enhance urban wastewater treatment infrastructure, including the number of Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) currently operational, under construction, or proposed in major and emerging urban centres, Statewise?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY**)**

(a) & (b) As per the report published by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in March, 2021, sewage generation from areas in the country was estimated at 72,368 million litres per day (MLD), against which a treatment capacity of 31,841 MLD was available with the States/Union Territories (UTs). Statewise sewage generation and treatment capacity of Urban centers can be accessed at :- https://cpcb.nic.in/openpdffile.php?id=UmVwb3J0RmlsZXMvMTIyOF8xNjE1MTk2MzIyX21lZGlhcGhvdG85NTY0LnBk Zg==

(c) & (d) Cleaning/Rejuvenation of rivers is a continuous process. It is the primary responsibility of States/UTs and Urban Local Bodies to ensure required treatment of sewage and industrial effluents to the prescribed norms before discharging into the rivers and other water bodies.

CPCB had issued directions on 21.04.2015 to State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/ Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 asking them to issue directions to Local Authorities for sewage management in their respective cities/towns and to submit time bound action plans for collection, transportation and treatment of sewage generated in urban area. CPCB also issued directions on 09.10.2015 to Local Authorities under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for

sewage management in Class I Cities and Class II towns and asking them to ensure that only treated waste water is disposed in accordance to the stipulated standard.

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has issued orders Original Application No. 673/2018, in which the NGT directed that all States/UTs should prepare action plans for the rejuvenation of polluted river stretches in the country identified in 2018 by CPCB. In compliance of these orders the States have got their action plan prepared and got approved from the competent authority. For monitoring, As per the direction, the implementation of said action plans has been reviewed at all States/UTs and the central level. State wise details of action plans are at: https://cpcb.nic.in/mcngt-restoration/

For conservation of rivers, the Ministry has been supplementing efforts of the States/UTs by providing financial assistance for abatement of pollution in identified stretches of the rivers in the country through Central Sector scheme of "Namami Gange" for the rivers in Ganga basin, and Centrally Sponsored Schemes of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) for other rivers. Apart from this sewerage infrastructure is created under programs like Atal Mission for Rejuvenation & Urban Transformation (AMRUT) and Smart Cities Mission of Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs.

NRCP has so far covered polluted stretches on 57 rivers in 100 towns spread over 17 States in the country with the project sanctioned cost of Rs. 8931.49 crore, and inter-alia, a sewage treatment capacity of 2941 million liters per day (MLD) has been created. Under the Namami Gange programme, a total of 488 projects, including 203 projects for sewage treatment of 6255 MLD capacity and a sewer network of 5,249 kms, have been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 32,613 crore.

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DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 720

ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

GROUNDWATER QUALITY

720. SHRI MOHAMMED NADIMUL HAQUE

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the increase in the number of districts with excessive Nitrate in groundwater from 2017 to 2023 and the current percentage of districts affected, Statewise; and

(b) the current status of groundwater replenishment and extraction levels across the country, including the percentage of blocks categorized as safe, semi-critical, critical, and over-exploited?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY**)**

(a) As per the Ground Water Quality Reports prepared by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) from time to time, state-wise details of number of districts reporting localised occurrence of Nitrates beyond permissible limits in isolated pockets from 2017 to 2023 are provided at **Annexure –I**.

(b) Assessment of Dynamic groundwater resources of each State/UT is being carried out on annual basis jointly by the Central Ground Water Board and the concerned State Nodal/Ground Water Departments. As per the report of "National Compilation of Dynamic Ground Water Resources of India, 2024", the total annual groundwater recharge in the country has been assessed as 446.9 billion cubic metres (bcm). Total annual extractable groundwater resource has been assessed as 406.19 bcm and the total annual groundwater extraction for all purposes (like domestic, industrial, agricultural uses etc) is estimated as 245.64 bcm. The Stage of groundwater Extraction (SoE), which is defined as a ratio of Annual Ground Water Extraction over Annual Extractable Ground Water Resource for the whole country is arrived at 60.47 %.

Further, out of the total 6746 assessment units (Blocks/Taluks/Mandals) in the country, 4951 (73.39 %) units are categorized as "safe", 711 units (10.54 %) as "Semi-critical'', 206 units (3.05 %) as "Critical", 751 units (11.13%) as "Over-Exploited and remaining 127 assessment units (1.88%) are placed under "Saline" category.

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ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 720 TO BE ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 10.02.2025 REGARDING "GROUNDWATER QUALITY".

Number of districts (State-Wise) reporting occurrence of Nitrate beyond permissible limit in Ground Water for Year 2017 and 2023

S.No.	State	Year 2023	Year 2017
		No. of districts reporting Nitrate beyond permissible limit in isolated pockets (> 45 mg/L)	No. of districts reporting Nitrate beyond permissible limit in isolated pockets (> 45 mg/L)
1	Andhra Pradesh	26	13
2	Bihar	15	20
3	Chhattisgarh	20	0
4	Delhi	7	0
5	Goa	0	2
6	Gujarat	23	30
7	Haryana	21	18
8	Himachal Pradesh	6	1
9	Jammu & Kashmir	6	6
10	Jharkhand	9	17
11	Karnataka	27	27
12	Kerala	10	13
13	Madhya Pradesh	39	48
14	Maharashtra	32	32
15	ODISHA	15	0
16	Pondicherry	1	0
17	Punjab	20	17
18	RAJASTHAN	30	29
19	Tamil Nadu	31	20
20	Telangana	32	10
21	Tripura	2	0
22	Uttar Pradesh	48	44
23	Uttarakhand	5	0
24	West Bengal	18	12
	Grand Total	**443**	**359**

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

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DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 719

ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

INTERLINKING OF RIVERS IN ODISHA

719. SHRI SUBHASISH KHUNTIA

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has considered interlinking of rivers in the State of Odisha to address water scarcity and improve irrigation;

(b) if so, the details of the proposed river interlinking projects in the State;

(c) the estimated costs and timelines for implementation of these projects; and

(d) the steps being taken to address any environmental and social concerns related to these projects?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY**)**

(a) to (c) The Government of India formulated a National Perspective Plan (NPP) in the year 1980 to transfer water from surplus basins to water deficit basins / areas. National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has been entrusted with the work of Interlinking of Rivers (ILR) under the NPP. Thirty (30) ILR projects have been identified under the NPP, which, inter alia, include three (3) projects, envisaged to benefit the State of Odisha as well. The details of benefits of these three (3) ILR Projects along with their estimated cost are given at **Annexure**.

Timelines / schedule of completion of ILR Projects depends upon the party States arriving at a consensus for the respective ILR projects and signing of the link specific Memorandum of Agreements (MoAs) for their implementation.

(d) To address the environmental and social concerns, if any, related to the ILR projects, detailed Environmental Impact Study (EIA) is done at the stage of preparation of FRs and Detailed Project Reports (DPRs). EIA study is aimed at identifying positive and negative impacts of the project on physical, ecological and socio-economic environment. Detailed study on soil type, climate type, ground water quality, biological environment, floral diversity, forests and wildlife, ground water recharge, change of hydrological regime of river, public health aspects, employment potential generation, project affected families, submergence area, etc. is done at stage of preparation of DPRs along with a proposal for Environment Management Plan to mitigate the assessed impacts.

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ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 719 TO BE ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 10.02.2025 REGARDING "INTERLINKING OF RIVERS IN ODISHA"

DETAILS OF BENEFITS OF ILR PROJECTS IN ODISHA UNDER THE NPP

Sl.No.	Name	States benefited	Annual Irrigation (Lakh hectare)	Domestic & Industrial (Million Cubic Metres)	Hydro power (Mega watt)	Estimated Cost	Status
1	a. Mahanadi (Manibhadra) - Godavari (Dowlaiswaram) link	Andhra Pradesh (AP) and Odisha	4.43	802	445	-	FR completed
	b. Alternate Mahanadi (Barmul) - Rushikulya – Godavari (Dowlaiswaram) link	AP and Odisha	6.25 (0.91 + 3.52 + 1.82*)	700 ++125*	210 + 240*	Rs. 54019 crores at the 2018-19 price level (PL)	FR completed
2.	Ganga(Farakka) - Damodar-Subarnarekha link	West Bengal (WB), Odisha and Jharkhand	12.30 (11.18+ 0.39+ 0.73)	432	--	Rs. 87166.01 crores at the 2019-20 PL	FR completed
3.	Subarnarekha-Mahanadi link	WB and Odisha	2.16 (0.18+ 1.98)	198	20	Rs. 28644 crore at the 2019-20 PL	FR completed

***** Benefit to Odisha from 6 projects of Government of Odisha, envisaged to be integrated to Mahanadi (Barmul) – Godavari (Dowlaiswaram) link Project.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 716

ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

ACHIEVEMENT OF NMCG

716. SHRI KUNWAR RATANJEET PRATAP NARAYAN SINGH

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

(a) details of the projects sanctioned, status of completion and the achievements of the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) since its inception, State-wise;

(b) the contribution of the NMCG in improving the water quality and biodiversity along the Ganga river and its tributaries particularly in the State of Uttar Pradesh;

(c) the steps taken to create awareness regarding the importance of NMCG among citizens;

(d) whether any international collaboration have been established to adopt global best practices in river rejuvenation and to bring funding and technical expertise for NMCG, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY**)**

(a) & (b) The status of projects, sanctioned and completed, under Namami Gange Programme, State-wise, are annexed at **Annexure**. The contributions and achievements of National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) for improving the water quality along the river Ganga and its tributaries are as under:

1. A total of 203 number of sewerage infrastructure projects costing ₹ 32,613 crores have been taken up for **remediation of polluted river areas** with treatment capacity of 6,255 Million Liters per Day (MLD). 127 STP projects with a capacity of 3,446 MLD have been completed and made operational;
2. For industrial pollution abatement**,** 3 nos. of **Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs**) have been sanctioned, i.e., Jajmau CETP (20 MLD), Banther CETP (4.5 MLD), and Mathura CETP (6.25 MLD). Two projects, Mathura CETP (6.25 MLD) and Jajmau CETP (20 MLD) have been completed;
3. **Annual inspection of Grossly Polluting Industries (GPIs):** Inspection of GPIs started in 2017**.** In 2024, 4246 Grossly Polluting Industries (GPIs) have been inventorised in the 7th round of inspection. Out of 3,106 GPIs inspected so far 1,819 GPIs are compliant, 692 are non-compliant, 385 GPIs are temporarily closed and 210 GPIs are permanently closed. Among the non-compliant (692 GPIs), 17 GPIs have been issued notice for closure and 675 GPIs have been issued show cause notice. These efforts have resulted in reduction in BOD load from 26 tonnes per day (TPD) in 2017 to 13.73 TPD in 2022, and about 28.6 % reduction in effluent discharge from 349 MLD in 2017 to 249.31 MLD in 2022;

4. At NMCG, an on-line dashboard **"PRAYAG**" has been operationalized for continuous monitoring of river water quality; the performance of Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs); etc. on the Ganga and Yamuna River;
5. Construction of independent household toilets in **4,507 identified villages** in the five River Ganga States have been completed. All these Ganga bank villages have now been declared open defecation-free (**ODF**). Further, till date, 3,679 nos of Ganga villages have been declared ODF sustainability (**ODF Plus)**;
6. A total no. of 139 **District Ganga Committees (DGC)**have been constituted which conducts 4M (Monthly, Mandated, Minuted, and Monitored) meetings regularly. As of December 2024, more than 3,748 meetings have been conducted;
7. NMCG together with other agencies in coordination with the selected DGCs have prepared **District Ganga Plans** for 4 districts in Ramganga Basin i.e. Udham Singh Nagar in Uttarakhand, Shahjahanpur, Moradabad and Bareilly in Uttar Pradesh using a common methodology and River Basin Management framework developed by NMCG with technical support under the India-EU Water Partnership (IEWP);
8. **Biodiversity Conservation:** Seven Biodiversity Parks in seven districts (Mirzapur, Bulandshahar, Hapur, Budaun, Ayodhya, Bijnore and Pratapgarh) of Uttar Pradesh and 5 priority wetlands in Uttar Pradesh (3), Bihar (1) and Jharkhand (1) have been sanctioned;
9. NMCG, through the State Forest Department, has implemented a **forestry intervention** project along the main stem of river Ganga. 33,024 hectares area have been afforested with an expenditure of about ₹ 398 crores;
10. A total of 143.8 lakhs of Indian Major Carp (IMC) fingerlings have been ranched in the Ganga since 2017 to conserve **fish biodiversity** and prey base for river Dolphins, and ensure the livelihood of fishers in the Ganga basin under the special project implemented by Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute (CIFRI);
11. Science-based **species restoration programme**, rescue, and rehabilitation programme for aquatic species like Dolphins, Otters, Hilsa, Turtles, and Ghariyal in collaboration with Wild Life Institute of India (WII), Dehradun and State Forest Department, have shown marked improvements in biodiversity with increased sightings of Dolphins, Otters, Hilsa, Turtles, and other riverine species;
12. "**Ganga Knowledge Portal**" is a pioneering initiative developed in-house by the National Mission for Clean Ganga, serving as a centralized repository for comprehensive resources on water resource management. This platform is engineered to facilitate access for students, research scholars, stakeholders, and the general public to a vast array of materials (716 documents), including journals, publications, books, technical articles, research reports; data sets (District River Maps, STP performance and river atlas) and coffee table books. By concentrating on the intricacies of water

resource challenges, Ganga Knowledge portal aims to enhance awareness and foster informed decision-making in this critical sector;

13. **Ganga Task Force (GTF)** was raised in the state of Uttar Pradesh to assist NMCG in carrying out its mandated tasks, such as (a) Plantation of trees to check soil erosion; (b) Management of Public Awareness / Participation campaigns; (c) Patrolling of Sensitive Rivers Areas for Biodiversity protection; (d) Patrolling of Ghats, etc.;
14. A cadre of Ganga Doots (45,000 nos.), Ganga Praharis (2,900 nos.) and Ganga Mitra (700 nos.) are involved in public **participatory activities**;
15. Comprehensive **public awareness campaigns** have been undertaken to instill a sense of responsibility and engagement among the public in efforts to clean and conserve the Ganga River. These include - Ganga Utsav, Nadi Utsav, regular cleanathons and plantation drives, Ghat Par Yoga, Ganga Aartis, etc. The efforts are also supported by dedicated cadres of Ganga saviours, such as Ganga Praharis, Ganga VicharManch, Ganga Doots, etc.

(c) NMCG is organizing continuous cleanliness drives and awareness campaigns with support from academic institutions, volunteer groups, partner organizations, and District Ganga Committees, etc. to sensitize and educate the communities living near the Ghats and river banks about the impact of pollution on Rivers, ways by which people may contribute significantly to curb the water pollution and adopt environment-friendly practices. Various awareness and mass mobilization campaigns are conducted regularly to make citizens aware of the initiatives of NMCG and its role in the rejuvenation of rivers. Various initiatives are highlighted to sensitize people/communities on water conservation, river rejuvenation, ecology and environment, and other related issues. These activities focus on the active involvement of school students and youth groups to spread the message among the communities. Social Media also plays a vital role in reaching out to people from time to time for engagement and information.

(d) & (e) The government of India has entered into following international collaborations for global best practices in river rejuvenation and enhancing technical expertise in NMCG:

i. **Denmark**: MoU was signed between the Government of India and the Government of Denmark as a broad-based framework in the field of Water Resources Development and Management to enhance livability, resilience, and economic development. Under the collaboration, Smart Laboratory on Clean River (SLCR) was established at IIT-BHU.
ii. **Germany:** Agreement was signed between the Government of India and the Government of Germany regarding Technical cooperation to Support Ganga Rejuvenation (SGR) project to strengthen Quality Infrastructure for water monitoring of the River Ganga.

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ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.716 TO BE ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 10.02.2025 REGARDING "ACHIEVEMENT OF NMCG".

DETAILS OF PROJECTS SANCTIONED AND COMPLETED

	Projects Undertaken	**Number of Projects Sanctioned**	**Number of Projects Completed**
Uttarakhand			
1.	Pollution Abatement	42	36
2.	Ghats and Crematoria	21	13
3.	Afforestation	7	6
4.	Solid Waste Management	3	1
5.	Biodiversity, Bioremediation, Industrial Pollution, R & D and others	14	4
Uttar Pradesh			
6.	Pollution Abatement	73	46
7.	Ghats and Crematoria	25	21
8.	Afforestation	8	7
9.	Solid Waste Management	4	4
10.	Composite Ecological Task Force and Ganga Mitra	6	5
11.	Biodiversity, Bioremediation, Industrial Pollution, R & D and others	42	16
Bihar			
12.	Pollution Abatement	38	18
13.	Ghats and Crematoria	20	15
14.	Afforestation	7	6
15.	Bioremediation, Industrial Pollution, R & D and others	4	2
Jharkhand			
16.	Pollution Abatement	5	2
17.	Ghats and Crematoria	4	4
18.	Afforestation	7	6
19.	Industrial Pollution, R & D and others	3	1
West Bengal			
20.	Pollution Abatement	29	14
21.	Ghats and Crematoria	33	29
22.	Afforestation	7	6
23.	Biodiversity, Bioremediation, Industrial Pollution, R & D and others	5	3
Delhi			
24.	Pollution Abatement	9	8
25.	Industrial Pollution, R & D and others	5	1
Haryana			
26.	Pollution Abatement	2	2
27.	Bioremediation, Industrial Pollution and others	2	1
Himachal Pradesh			
28.	Pollution Abatement	1	1
29.	Ghats and Crematoria	1	-
Rajasthan			
30.	Pollution Abatement	1	-
Madhya Pradesh			
31.	Pollution Abatement	3	-
32.	Ghats and Crematoria	4	-
Others Projects			
33.	Industrial Pollution, R & D, Sanitation and others	53	27
Total		**488**	**305**

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 715

ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION AND MANAGEMENT IN THE COUNTRY

715. SMT. RANJEET RANJAN SMT. PHULO DEVI NETAM

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

(a) the district-wise data on Nitrate levels in groundwater during the last five years;

(b) the initiatives taken to reduce Nitrate contamination caused by agricultural practices, including the use of fertilisers and their impact on water quality;

(c) the steps being undertaken to mitigate contamination from other sources, particularly in severely affected States like Rajasthan, Punjab and Karnataka;

(d) the progress made in expanding the groundwater monitoring network, including the use of digital devices to measure water levels and the expected outcomes of increasing the network to 40,000 wells by 2027; and

(e) strategy of Government to balance groundwater extraction with-exploited regions?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY**)**

(a) Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) generates ground water quality data on a regional scale as part of its ground water quality monitoring program annually and various scientific studies. The district-wise data on nitrate levels in ground water samples recorded for the years 2019 and 2023 is available at the following link: https://cgwb.gov.in/sites/default/files/inline-files/percentage_of_samples_nitrate_morethan_permissible_limits_all_states_2023_2019.pdf

(b) The Government is taking several measures to promote sustainable agriculture in the country with a vision to discourage excessive use of chemical fertilizers and promote organic agricultural practices. The Government is implementing Soil Health Management & Soil Health Card Schemes under the National Project on Soil Health & Fertility of National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture since the year 2014-15. Soil health card provides information to farmers on nutrient status of their soil along with recommendations on appropriate dosage of nutrients to be applied for improving soil health and its productivity. Based on the recommendations on Soil Health Card (SHC), so far, 93781 farmer's trainings and 7425 farmer's melas/campaigns have been organized across the country for promoting judicious use of chemical fertilizers including secondary and micronutrients in conjunction with organic manures & bio-fertilizers.

Further, the Government is also promoting Natural Farming since 2019-2020 through Bharatiya Prakritik Krishi Paddhati (BPKP) programme under Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY). The scheme

mainly emphasizes on exclusion of all synthetic chemical inputs and promotes on-farm biomass recycling with major stress on biomass mulching, use of cow dung-urine formulations and other plant based preparations.

(c) Water is a state subject and the responsibility of ground water management, including taking initiatives for improving ground water quality and mitigate the contamination issue, lies primarily with the state governments. However, several steps have been taken by the Central Government in this direction like regular quality monitoring and sharing of data by CGWB with state governments and other stakeholders, taking up construction of Arsenic and Fluoride safe wells and disseminating the technology, implementation of Water (Prevention & Control) Act, 1974 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 by CPCB/SPCBs to prevent and control pollution in water etc.

But the major thrust for safeguarding the entire population of the country from the adverse effects of contaminated water has been provided by the Government by way of implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) – Har Ghar Jal, as a noble initiative. JJM is operational in the country since August 2019, including in the states of Rajasthan, Punjab & Karnataka, with a view to make provision of potable tap water supply in adequate quantity, of prescribed quality and on regular & long-term basis to every rural household in the country. Under JJM, Bureau of Indian Standards' BIS:10500 standards have been adopted as prescribed norms for quality of tap water service delivery and JJM guidelines also stipulate that while allocating the funds to States/ UTs, 10% weightage is given to the population residing in habitations affected by chemical contaminants.

(d) Realizing the significance of having high frequency data on ground water on real time basis, this Ministry has taken up the process of installing Digital Water Level Recorders (DWLRs) with telemetry systems throughout the country under its various schemes and projects like Ground Water Management & Regulation (GWM &R) Scheme, Atal Bhujal Yojana etc. The state governments are also funded for carrying out the said activity under National Hydrology Project(NHP). So far, around 24,000 DWLRs have been installed across the country under the above said schemes. These instruments transmit water level data directly from the field to a central server at high frequency which facilitates near-real-time access to this data.

(e) As stated earlier, Water being a State subject, sustainable development and management of groundwater resources is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the Central Government facilitates the efforts of the State Governments by way of technical and financial assistance through its various schemes and projects. In this direction, the important steps taken by the Ministry of Jal Shakti and other central ministries for sustainable development of ground water resources in the country, with special focus on water stressed regions, are given below:-

i. The Government is implementing Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA) in the country since 2019 which is a mission mode and time bound programme for harvesting the rainfall and taking up water conservation activities. Currently, JSA 2024 is being implemented in the country with special focus on 151 water stressed districts of the country. JSA is an umbrella campaign under which various ground water recharge and conservation related works are being taken up in convergence with various central and state schemes.

ii. CGWB has taken up National Aquifer Mapping and Management Programme (NAQUIM) with an aim to delineate aquifer disposition and their characterization. Entire mappable area of the country of around 25 lakh sq. km has been mapped under the scheme and management plans have been shared with the respective State governments for implementation.

iii. Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Groundwater- 2020 has been prepared by the CGWB for the entire country and shared with States/UTs providing a broad outline for construction of around 1.42 crore rain water harvesting and artificial recharge structures in the country to harness 185 BCM (Billion cubic meter).

iv. MoJS is implementing Atal Bhujal Yojana, which is a community led scheme for participatory ground water management focusing on demand side management of ground water in 80 water stressed districts in 7 States.

v. Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare (DA & FW), GoI, is implementing Per Drop More Crop Scheme in the country since 2015-16, which focuses on enhancing water use efficiency at farm level through Micro Irrigation and better on-farm water management practices to optimize the use of available water resources.

vi. Mission Amrit Sarovar was launched by the Government of India which aimed at developing and rejuvenating at least 75 water bodies in each district of the country. As an outcome nearly 69,000 Amrit Sarovars have been constructed/rejuvenated in the country.

vii. Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) has been constituted under section 3(3) of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for the purpose of regulation and control of ground water development and management in the country. Abstraction cum use of Groundwater in the country is regulated by CGWA in the country by way of issuing NOCs as per the provisions of its Guidelines dated 24.09.2020.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 714

ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

RIVER POLLUTION IN MAHARASHTRA

714. DR. MEDHA VISHRAM KULKARNI

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the State of Maharashtra has the highest number of polluted river stretches in the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken to confirm the accuracy of the findings and conduct water quality assessments;

(c) the specific pollutants identified in these river stretches and their sources; and

(d) the role of Maharashtra Pollution Control Board and the Central Government in monitoring and addressing this issue?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY**)**

(a) Central Pollution Control Board in its last report published in November, 2022 has identified 55 polluted river stretches in 55 rivers in Maharashtra.

(b) Central Pollution Control Board is the apex body in the field of water quality management in India. It has laid a water quality monitoring network across the country with assistance of State Pollution Control Boards/ Committee under the National Water Quality Monitoring programme in order to assess status of water quality of water resources.

(c) Rivers in the country are polluted and contaminated mainly due to discharge of untreated and partially treated sewage from cities/towns and industrial effluents in their respective catchments. Non-point source of pollution like erosion, transportation and sedimentation of rocks, soils, agriculture runoff, open defecation and runoff from solid waste dumping sites, etc. also contribute to pollution of river.

(d) As per the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution), Act 1974, industrial units and local bodies are required to install Effluent Treatment Plants (ETPs)/Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) and Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) respectively and treat their effluents/sewage to comply with stipulated environmental standards before discharging into river and water bodies.

Accordingly, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), State Pollution Control Boards (SPCB)/Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) monitor industries with respect to effluent discharge standards and take punitive action for non-compliance under the provisions of these Acts.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 711

ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

REVIVAL OF WATER SOURCES AND PROMOTION OF WATER CONSERVATION FOR IRRIGATION, JHARKHAND

711 # SHRI ADITYA PRASAD

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any special schemes are being run by the Central Government and State Government to strengthen the irrigation network in the State of Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the details of implementation and progress of these schemes; and

(c) the schemes formulated by Government to revive water sources and promote water conservation for irrigation in the State of Jharkhand?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY**)**

(a) & (b) Under the scheme, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojna - Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (PMKSY-AIBP), Subernarekha multipurpose project is being implemented for integrated water resources development of Subernarekha river basin for irrigation, industrial and domestic water supply, flood control and hydro-power benefits to Jharkhand, Odisha & West Bengal. Ultimate irrigation potential of the project in Jharkhand is 2,36,846 hectare, out of which, irrigation potential of 1,42,900 hectare has been created so far.

Further, North Koel reservoir project an inter state major irrigation project between Jharkhand and Bihar is being implemented with central assistance. The project envisages increasing irrigation facilities to 18,500 hectare land from existing 15,000 hectare. Overall 20% works of the project are completed so far.

(c) Under the scheme Per Drop More Crop (PDMC), Government of India has been implementing centrally sponsored scheme on micro irrigation with the objective to enhance water use efficiency in the agriculture sector by promoting appropriate technological interventions like drip & sprinkler irrigation technologies and encourage the farmers to use water saving and conservation technologies. Under this scheme total 43,094-hectare area has been covered under water conservation through micro irrigation since 2015-16, in Jharkhand.

Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has completed the National Aquifer Mapping (NAQUIM) Project in the entire mappable area of about 25 lakh sq. km including Jharkhand. CGWB has prepared a master plan for water conservation through artificial recharge in consultation with States/UTs which is a macro level plan indicating various structures for the different terrain conditions of the country including estimated cost. The master plan envisages construction of about 1.42 crore Rain water harvesting and artificial recharge structures in the country to harness 185 billion cubic metre of monsoon rainfall including 5.9 lakh structures in Jharkhand.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 710

ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

PROGRESS UNDER GANGA BANK TREE PLANTATION CAMPAIGN IN JHARKHAND

710 # SMT. MAHUA MAJI

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

(a) details of progress made, area covered, funds allocated and expenditure incurred under Ganga Bank Tree Plantation Campaign (2016-21) in the State of Jharkhand;

(b) out of ₹347 crores, amount allocated to Jharkhand and utilized thereof, the measures taken for efficient use of funds and achievement of goals;

(c) impact of tree plantation on groundwater recharging and preventing erosion in the State;

(d) the steps taken to enhance the success of the campaign and ensure participation of local community for sustainable results; and

(e) plan to identify the areas of Jharkhand affected by changes in the flow of Ganga and the resolution thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY**)**

(a) & (b) Under the Namami Gange Programme, in Jharkhand (Sahibganj district only), a total of 884 ha. plantation has been carried out since the year 2016-17 for which an amount of Rs. 27.81 crore has been provided by NMCG to State Forest Department, Jharkhand.

(c) A midterm evaluation of the plantations done under the Namami Gange programme was carried out in Sahibganj district of Jharkhand during the year 2021-2022 through IIFM Bhopal. The evaluation study indicates that the overall survival percentage and growth of the plants in the Sahibganj Forest Division, Jharkhand was found to be satisfactory. No scientific study has been conducted to see the impact of tree plantation on ground water recharge and soil erosion in Sahibganj district, Jharkhand.

(d) To enhance the success of the Plantation Campaign and ensure sustainable outcomes through active community participation, several strategic measures have been implemented:

- Ganga Doots and Ganga Praharis: Local volunteers engaged in plantation drives and conservation efforts.
- Plantation drives carried out with participation of Local Elected Representatives, civil society members and members of District Ganga Committee

- School-Based Initiatives: Programs like “Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam” carried out
- Public-Private Collaboration: Joint efforts by government agencies, NGOs, and private entities ensured better resource allocation and efficiency.

(e) A Committee comprising members from the State Government of West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand and concerned Central Government Departments, has been constituted by the Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation to undertake a joint detailed technical study for an integrated plan to combat the threat of erosion posed by Ganga Padma river in select stretches.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 709

ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

GROUNDWATER LEVEL IN UTTAR PRADESH

709. # DR. LAXMIKANT BAJPAYEE

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

(a) whether groundwater level is declining in several districts of the State of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the district-wise and year-wise details of groundwater level in the State of Uttar Pradesh during the last five years;

(c) the steps taken and various schemes implemented by Government to maintain and increase the groundwater level in the State;

(d) the details of various agencies engaged in this work in the State of Uttar Pradesh; and

(e) the expenditure incurred for this purpose in the State during the last five years?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY**)**

(a) Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) monitors groundwater levels throughout the country, including Uttar Pradesh, four times in every year through its network of monitoring stations. Analysis of such water level data for the past 5 years shows that the percentage of wells registering ground water levels within 0-10 mbgl (meters below ground level) range have consistently remained above 80% during the period in Uttar Pradesh, indicating ease of access to ground water.

(b) The district wise ground water levels measured for the period of last five years (2020-2024) in respect of Uttar Pradesh can be accessed from the below link https://jalshakti-dowr.gov.in/document/the-district-wise-groundwater-level-data-for-uttar-pradesh-recorded-over-the-past-five-years-2020-2024/

(c) Water being a State subject, the responsibility of addressing the ground water related issues lies primarily with the concerned State Governments. However, the Central Government facilitates the efforts of the State Governments by way of technical and financial assistance through its various schemes and projects. In this direction, the important steps taken by the Ministry of Jal Shakti and other central ministries for sustainable management of ground water resources in the country are given below:-

i. The Government is implementing Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA) in the country since 2019 which is a mission mode and time bound programme for harvesting the rainfall and taking up water conservation activities. Currently, JSA 2024 is being implemented in the country with special focus on 151 water stressed districts of the country, including 10 such districts in Uttar Pradesh. JSA is an umbrella campaign under which various ground water recharge and conservation related works are being taken up in convergence with various central and state schemes. As per the information, under JSA, a total of around 13.53 lakh water conservation and rain water harvesting structures have been constructed in Uttar Pradesh in the last 4 years.

ii. CGWB has taken up National Aquifer Mapping and Management Programme (NAQUIM) with an aim to delineate aquifer disposition and their characterization. Entire mappable area of the country of around 25 lakh sq. km, including 2.40 lakh sq km of Uttar Pradesh, has been mapped under the scheme and management plans have been shared with the respective State/District administrations for implementation.

iii. Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Groundwater- 2020 has been prepared by the CGWB for the entire country, including Uttar Pradesh and shared with States/UTs providing a broad outline for construction of around 1.42 crore rain water harvesting and artificial recharge structures in the country to harness 185 BCM (Billion cubic meter) of water. For Uttar Pradesh, the Masterplan recommends around 23 thousand structures.

iv. Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare (DA & FW), GoI, is implementing Per Drop More Crop Scheme in the country, including Uttar Pradesh, since 2015-16, which focuses on enhancing water use efficiency at farm level through Micro Irrigation and better on-farm water management practices to optimize the use of available water resources.

v. Mission Amrit Sarovar was launched by the Government of India which aimed at developing and rejuvenating at least 75 water bodies in each district of the country, including Uttar Pradesh. As an outcome nearly 69,000 Amrit Sarovars have been constructed/rejuvenated in the country, with 16,630 in Uttar Pradesh.

vi. Ministry has circulated a Model Bill to all the States/UTs to enable them to enact suitable ground water legislation for regulation of its development, which also includes provision of rain water harvesting. So far, 21 States/UTs including Uttar Pradesh have adopted and implemented the ground water legislation.

vii. Details of several other significant initiatives of the Government of India for improvement of groundwater situation in the country can be seen through the link below- https://jalshakti-dowr.gov.in/document/steps-taken-by-the-central-government-to-control-water-depletion-and-promote-rain-water-harvesting-conservation/

viii. Further, as informed by the state government, Uttar Pradesh Ground Water Management and Regulation Act-2019 has been enacted since 2019. Under this Act, Installation of Rain water Harvesting Structures is made compulsory for Government/Semi-Government buildings and for those users extracting ground water in their premises having plot area of 300 square meter or more. Thus far, Ground Water Department, Uttar Pradesh has constructed approx. 2.86 lack square meter Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting Structures in Government buildings.

(d) As per the information received from the Ground Water Department, Uttar Pradesh, various agencies like Ground Water Department, Minor Irrigation Department, Department of Panchayati Raj etc. are involved in water conservation work across the state.

(e) As per the information received from the Ground Water Department, Uttar Pradesh, a total expenditure of Rs. 11,822 Cr has been incurred on construction/rejuvenation/restoration of various artificial recharge and other water conservation works in the state from the year 2019 to the present under the Jal Shakti Abhiyan.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 708

ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

CENSUS OF WATER BODIES

708. SHRI YERRAM VENKATA SUBBA REDDY

Will the Minister of **JAL SHAKTI** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted Census of water bodies in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that there are nearly 91,000 water bodies in the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(c) if so, whether it is also a fact that there are nearly 4,000 water bodies that have been encroached; and

(d) if so, manner in which the Central Government is sensitizing the State Government regarding importance of water bodies for socio-economic development and sustainable water security to the local population and removing encroachments?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR JAL SHAKTI

(SHRI RAJ BHUSHAN CHOUDHARY**)**

(a) Yes. Ministry of Jal Shakti has conducted the 1 st Census of Water bodies in 33 States/UTs under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Irrigation Census" with reference year 2017-18 with 100% central assistance. The census was conducted by the Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India in all States/UTs through nodal departments identified in each State/UT for this purpose.

(b) As per the report of first census of water bodies, there are 1,90,777 water bodies in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(c) As per the report of first census of water bodies, 3920 water bodies have been encroached.

(d) Action on reported encroachment of water bodies comes under the purview of the State Government concerned.

However, the Union Government has been sensitizing the State Governments regarding importance of water bodies for socio economic development and sustainable water security to the local population. Need for taking necessary steps for keeping the water bodies encroachment free, such as inclusion of water bodies in land records and making them integral part of town planning process, strict action against encroachers, etc. are also being emphasized to the State Governments by Union Government, from time to time.

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